

Minutes of the Committee on Best Practices in Municipal Decision Making

The meeting was called to order at 6 PM in the BPW Board Room.

Present were committee members Lisa DePiano, Jim Palermo, Alex Ghiselin, Wendy Foxmyn, David Narkewicz and Bob Reckman. Citizens Susan Enz and Bob Bacon were also present.

The committee discussed the Meadows Land Use Plan Forum. Alex briefly described the forum. Bob Bacon (who was at our meeting instead of the Forum by mistake) started a detailed discussion of the details of one small part of the Meadows Plan and why the plan had to be amended slightly shortly before its approval.

Michael Bardsley arrived at 6:10.

The minutes of our meeting of August 6 were approved.

The committee discussed how we might memorialize the Forum. The videotape will clearly be part of our final report. Alex agreed to write up a preliminary draft summary that he will e-mail to the committee for their responses and that we will discuss at our next meeting if it is done.

David reported from the in-reach committee (David, Lisa and Wendy) about their meeting on August 11. They revised their form and have sent it, with an introductory letter, to all members of City Boards and Commissions. They also finalized a list of people who they want to interview and are moving forward on that process. They may need the assistance of other committee members for the interviews. The goal of the subcommittee is to have a report for our committee by October 6.

David presented the document that he and Bob prepared about best practices in other communities. The committee will review it and discuss it at our meeting next week. Bob agreed to call Portland and Vancouver to ask how their programs have progressed.

The committee talked about the preparation of our final report. There was consensus that we would identify important themes that we have heard. The committee agreed that we should begin now to think about the format of our final report. Michael, Jim and Wendy agreed that they would work to have something for our meeting on Sept. 25.

The committee discussed the idea of having another public forum. Bob will call the Senior Center and ask what dates might work for a Senior oriented forum. He will report to the committee at our next meeting.

Our next meeting will be at the library at Leed's Elementary School at 6 PM on Sept. 3 at 6:PM.

Wendy has a problem with Wednesday meetings. Our current last meetings in November and December fall on holidays so they must be changed. The members of the committee will e-mail Lisa a list of dates that they cannot meet after Labor Day.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30.

